



Voice of America

The Largest U.S. International Broadcaster

FAST FACTS

Headquarters: Washington, D.C.

Budget: \$206.5 million
(FY 2010 Estimate)

Employees: 1180

Languages: 44

Audience: 125 million weekly

Media: radio, television, and
the Internet

Purpose: to broadcast accurate,
balanced, and comprehensive
news and information to an
international audience

Facilities: 20 radio broadcast
studios, 33 production and record-
ing studios, 31 professional audio
mixing and dubbing stations,
4 television studios, 32 video editing
suites, and facilities for master
control, recording, scheduling,
and feed intake

History: broadcasts began in 1942,
as a response to the need of peoples
in closed and war-torn societies for
reliable news

VOA BROADCASTS

■ There are approximately 1,500
hours of programs each week.

■ 26 of VOA's 44 languages
broadcast on television.

■ Program content includes news,
features, education, and culture,
in discussion, call-in, live, and
pre-recorded formats.

■ VOA has a growing worldwide
network of more than 1,200 local
affiliate stations, which include FM
and medium wave (MW or AM)
radio stations, television networks,
and cable systems.

THE VOA CHARTER

*President Gerald Ford signed the
VOA Charter into law in 1976. It
protects the independence and
integrity of VOA programming.*

1. VOA will serve as a consistent-
ly reliable and authoritative
source of news. VOA news will
be accurate, objective, and
comprehensive.

2. VOA will represent America,
not any single segment of
American society, and will
therefore present a balanced
and comprehensive projection
of significant American thought
and institutions.

3. VOA will present the policies
of the United States clearly and
effectively, and will also present
responsible discussions and
opinion on these policies.

"The news may be good. The news may be bad. We shall tell you the truth" – William Harlan Hale, 1st VOA Broadcast (1942)

VOA broadcasts around the world in 44 languages:

AFRICA

Afan Oromo
Amharic
English
French
Hausa
Kinyarwanda
Kirundi
Ndebele
Portuguese
Shona
Somali
Swahili
Tigrigna

EAST ASIA

Burmese
Cantonese
Indonesian
Khmer
Korean
Lao
Mandarin
Thai
Tibetan
Vietnamese

ENGLISH

WORLDWIDE

EURASIA

Albanian
Bosnian
Croatian
Greek
Macedonian
Russian
Serbian
Ukrainian

LATIN AMERICA

Creole
Spanish

NEAR EAST

& CENTRAL ASIA

Armenian
Azerbaijani
Georgian
Kurdish
Turkish
Uzbek

PERSIAN NEWS NETWORK

WEST & SOUTH ASIA

Bangla
Dari
Pashto
Urdu

VOA NEWSCENTER

■ VOA's 30,000 square foot Newscenter is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, providing about 150 news reports per day for all language services and programs.

■ There are also 48 domestic and 13 overseas correspondents, in addition to more than 90 "stringers," or part-time reporters.

VOA AND TECHNOLOGY

■ VOA has the largest integrated digital audio system in the world.

■ A network of transmitting stations operated by the International Broadcasting Bureau, along with some leased stations, send VOA's programs instantaneously around the world.

■ The website, www.VOANews.com, provides a wide range of English-language news reports and serves as a portal to homepages of all 44 languages broadcast by VOA, as well as other information about VOA.

■ Pages feature text, audio/video files on demand, and live-streamed VOA programs.

SEE VOA LIVE

■ Take a behind-the-scenes look at VOA through our new guided audio-visual Studio Tour.

■ Learn more about our history and the regions to which we broadcast, and watch news as it happens through live TV and radio broadcasts.

■ For reservations or more information, call (202) 203-4990 or visit www.VOAtour.com



THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BBG)

■ The BBG is an independent federal agency that oversees all non-military U.S. international broadcasting including the Voice of America.

■ Nine Governors serve on the Board. Eight are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The ninth is always the Secretary of State.

■ Its mission is "To promote and sustain freedom and democracy by broadcasting accurate and objective news and information about the United States and the world to audiences overseas."



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*VOA is one of the
largest multimedia
news organizations
in the world.*